

OMS - PSYCHIA. PROGRAM



CAT. NO.

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MADE IN U. S. A.

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5 March 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT : Comments on "The Agency Psychiatric Program"

REFERENCE : Memorandum, same subject, from [REDACTED]
7 December 1973

Burney,

1. I have read subject history and fully endorse [REDACTED] comments and suggestions. There is no doubt that the history has been much improved in this draft. I still believe, however, after reading the text that it reflects a certain imbalance in emphasis on the long succession of staff members and consultants, at the expense of the kind of work the staff was actually doing. Can't some of the names that are sprinkled so liberally through the text be channelled into appendix listings.

2. My second point relates to the tendency to take the reader in hand and lead him through a series of studies undertaken by the staff without confiding to him the results of the studies, not even their highlights. This tendency is more evident in the early part of the history. Compare, for example, the light treatment of the results of the personnel stress study (p. 40), with the excellent synopsis of the JOT personality profile study (p. 71). Note also the rapid brushoff given the [REDACTED] whose story can scarcely be said to still be sensitive, or the reticence to say anything about Powers other than that he did not have a lobotomy. If you could tone down the emphasis on names, about whom nothing is said after they are listed, by diverting them into the back of the history and fill space saved with more substance in the form of thumbnail summaries of the findings of studies mentioned, then I would say that we had arrived. Miscellaneous notes are attached.

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Bernard Drell
Chief, CIA Historical Staff

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5 March 1973

Miscellaneous Comments on "The Agency Psychiatric Program"

Foreword, p. iii, para 2, first sentence

Prior to 1950 there was no DDA, so Tietjen could not have been in it. Wasn't he under the Executive for Administration, probably in the Services Division? See [] for a 1949 organization chart. The DDA was established by General Order No. 38, 1 December 1950. By this GO Tietjen became Chief of the Medical Staff under the DDA, and the staff had the status of an Administrative Office.

25X1

P. 10, second para

When did Dr. Tietjen approve the request for advanced professional psychiatric training for members of his staff?

P. 27, middle, right margin

I note and endorse the marginal comment: "Like what?" Up to this point the history has introduced various programs in such general terms that it is almost impossible to tell just what it was that the Psychiatric Staff was really doing, how it went about what it was doing, and what the findings were in substantive terms.

P. 30, last para

Amen. Shouldn't [] PHS affiliation be indicated on p. 1 when he is introduced into the Agency, along with the implications of this association. If OMS was using PHS personnel, who were simultaneously fulfilling their military obligations, this fact should be made explicit.

25X1

P. 40

Cannot more be said of the results of the study of personnel stress than that the stresses proved not to be as unique than expected? What about the intensity of the stress

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as against its uniqueness? Which types of personalities or Agency occupational specialties succumbed or withstood the stresses? A little more of the results would enhance the value of this history.

P. 43, second complete para

What were the results of the group therapy and individual treatment programs?

P. 55, lines 1-3

Compare this statement that the impact of stress was unique but not as severe as expected, with the statement on p. 40, which appears contradictory.

P. 60, last para

Show the year in which Martin and Mitchell defected.

P. 71, last para

Compares personality profiles of JOT's with other employee candidates. Excellent! Why cannot more substantive information such as this paragraph be built into the history instead of the lists of comings and goings of staff members?

P. 79, line 4

Stability? The text gives the impression of rapid turnover of psychiatric staff personnel.

P. 81, second complete paragraph

Why are none of the findings concerning [redacted] presented?

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P. 82, first para

Shows similar reticence concerning findings re Powers and [redacted]

25X1

25X1

P. 85, end of continued paragraph

What were the key results of the defector study?

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Title:

Change from "Agency" to "CIA".

Attachment

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7 December 1972

STAT MEMORANDUM FROM: [REDACTED]

TO :

SUBJECT : General Comments on The Agency
Psychiatric Program

STAT 1. [REDACTED] has reviewed the subject history and passed it on to me for comment. I think that this draft is a vast improvement over the first version and with minor touches on your part should be ready for publication.

STAT 2. I suppose it is inevitable in a paper of this kind that the writer should sometimes stimulate the interest of the reader, only to turn to another topic before the reader is satisfied. Both Jack and I have noted places in the draft where something more needs to be said. I am sure that [REDACTED] can supply the information and that you can easily work it into the text.

3. The overall development of the Psychiatric Staff is clearly shown; the documentation is appropriate; and the source references are elegant in their correctness. Since you will have a final crack at the draft before final typing, I can't resist a few purely editorial suggestions:

STAT a. I personally find it very difficult to follow a narrative in which flesh and blood people are referred to by the abbreviation of their job title -- "the Acting DC/PD said to the C/MS" -- much better [REDACTED] said to Dr. Tietjen." I think the abbreviation is appropriate when the position rather than the person is central -- "one of the

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functions of the C/PD was to preside over..." This may be no more than a personal preference: I leave it to your good judgment as to how far to go in substituting names for letters.

b. This history is not -- Gott sei Dank -- overly encumbered with organizational charts and T/O's. There are, however, a great many components referred to, and sometimes the same initials may be used by more than one organization (TSD); while the present style is technically correct, the use of a great number of abbreviations places a real burden on the memory of the reader. I think it would be helpful to spell out the names of components when several pages and a change of subject intervene between the original mention and the abbreviation or when the reader might be confused. Then too, although it is correct to use "PD" for the Psychiatric Division, its constant use together with other abbreviations gives the page the appearance of an algebra text. I suggest "the division" be substituted for "PD" if the context permits and there is no ambiguity.

c. Finally, the text might well profit by a little more variation in sentence structure. A sentence starting with a date followed by a simple subject and predicate is impeccable but also monotonous if the next few sentences are identical. (See the first full paragraph on page 90.) I suggest grouping chronological statistics into tables (pages 72 and 79) or recasting sentences to avoid repetition.

STAT



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